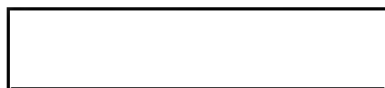


THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
Approved For Release 2003/06/20 : CIA-RDP86B00269R000200010013-4
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, THE JOINT STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

10 March

25X1



It seems to me
that a friend of
yours predicted
exactly this action
if vols II & III
were suppressed. He
still believes that
all that should be
classified is the
CIA section

25X1



CENSOR HOOVER
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
GROUP'S REPORT
MAR 9 - 1949
ON MILITARY
MAR 9 - 1949

Suppress 2 Volumes,

Release Third

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Washington, March 8—The Hoover commission on government organization has suppressed two volumes of a report on the defense system at the urgent request of the military high command, a commission official disclosed today.

The censored volumes reportedly contain serious and specific charges against the military organization, citing instances of military waste, extravagance, interservice bickering, and thoughtless disregard of the nation's economic burdens.

One Volume Released

The suppressed information was submitted to the commission by a "task force" on national defense headed by Ferdinand Eberstadt, New York financier and expert on military organization. Volume I, was made public Dec. 10, but volumes II and III were withheld and were not published when the commission's final report to congress on national defense was released last week.

Commission officials said that volumes II and III contained no military secrets. They were unable to explain why the reports were suppressed.

"All I know is that some high army and other military authorities asked the commission not to make the two volumes public and we agreed," a commission spokesman said.

Ripped Chiefs Of Staff

The Hoover commission was created by congress in 1947 as a nonpartisan investigating group to study the executive branch of the federal government and recommend changes to promote efficiency and economy. The report on the defense system was one of 18 governmental studies.

The Eberstadt report's volume I, strongly denounced the joint chiefs of staff and military officials for what it considered their failure to emphasize economy and efficiency thru unified organization. The report said military costs were "unduly high" and that the military "are far too prodigal with government funds."

The second and third volumes contained specific details and excerpts from testimony of 245 witnesses. These volumes cited numerous instances of military waste, squabbling and failures—the responsibility for which was largely laid at the door of the joint chiefs of staff.

MEMORANDUM

Executive Secretary

0-3616

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Adm Hillenkoetter

Info -

Wohl

18 March

RH

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